

Weare Heritage Commission
DRAFT MINUTES
April 29, 2009

In attendance: Secretary Meg Malette, George Malette, Donna Osborne, and Heleen Kurk.
There were two guests present: John Flanders and Pat Karpen.

A motion was made by George and seconded by Meg to approve the March minutes as written.

Tanya Kress contacted Meg Malette immediately prior to the meeting and said that she is resigning as its chairperson. She will be moving to Concord within the next couple of weeks and will be glad to assist with finishing the presentation on heritage commissions and Certified Local Governments for the selectmen and Weare Historical Society. Meg will be in contact with Tanya.

George talked about the Certified Local Government to be approved by the selectmen, which allows grants, specifically for a town-wide survey.

Heleen said that the Historical Society already has information on historical information of the town. Will the surveyor be able to use some of this information when creating the survey?
George said yes and that this information would be used.

Heleen asked about the Mildred Hall money for use with the commission's projects.

Heleen also asked about the grant from the CLG. Will it cover the entire expense of the historical survey? George said that the grant would cover the whole cost.

George handed out information on historic commissions for information to be reviewed for the new members and guests.

Meg has volunteered to put together a PowerPoint presentation on the definition of a historic commission and CLG. Pat Karpen has been asked to assist Meg. Meg will contact Tanya to ask her to send the PowerPoint presentation that she was in the process of preparing for the selectmen and Weare Historical Society.

George asked if there are any buildings in town that are endangered. The following was mentioned: town center store, old town hall, Clinton Grove Academy, gothic revival (two-gable) house near Country 3, South Weare Church, and Osborne Memorial Hall.

George said that if we become a CLG, the heritage commission can work with non-profits to apply for grants.

John Flanders mentioned that there's a lot of transition going on in the Town Center, and we don't know what the outcome will be in the future. Will the Town Center's look and feel

change? Sharing the history with new owners of historically significant structures is important said John.

Pat asked if the WHC can make recommendations to other town boards. The answer is yes. But there's no definition of what makes a building in Weare historic. George will be reviewing the zoning ordinances to see if we should make any such changes.

The Weare Historical Society and WHC wish the Greek revival house with two front gables, near Country 3 Corners be turned into an office building, not moved or razed.

George said that there are two historic districts in town, Clinton Grove and Mount Dearborn, and in the town center there is architectural compatibility zoning.

Neighborhood Heritage District is a new designation. George is going to the planning board conference this Saturday and will attend a session on Neighborhood Heritage Districts. This looks at whole neighborhoods, rather than details of buildings.

Heleen believes that the old town hall should be repaired on the second floor to be utilized by the town. Old, historic buildings in town should be reused. A community center was a need communicated by the citizens. The Old Town Hall could be repaired and used for this need.

Clinton Grove needs to have the tin part of the roof repaired and painted. Drainage was discussed. How can Clinton Grove be reused? Art gallery for high school, local artists, and New England College.

George went to an all-day grant workshop. Building assessments need to be done to get grants. Selectman Dick Butt said that the town has money from the trustees to pay and hire someone to do the assessments on the buildings. For lower assessments (\$1,000 to \$2,000), we may be able to get a grant. With higher assessments, we may not be able to cover the cost with a grant. George and Sylvia Beaupre are working on getting information on grants to cover the assessments.

Heleen would like to find a Web site that lists all the grants available. Pat said that there's an upcoming workshop on grant writing. She will find out when this workshop will be taking place.

Heleen nominated George Malette as chairperson of WHC. All were in favor. George Malette nominated Heleen Kurk as vice chairperson. All were in favor.

George said at the next meeting we should set goals and a time line for the upcoming year and present to the board of selectmen. Donna Osborne said that she can be the link between the WHC and board of selectmen.

George said that he will send everyone a copy of information on CLGs.

George said the Weare Heritage Commission should have procedural rules.

Scenic byway update: The Goffstown town planner is the chairman. Sherry Burdick is vice chair. This group is working on marketing and furthering its charge. Approved by the state and in the process of being approved by the federal government.

The meeting was adjourned by 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Malette

Meg Malette
Secretary